

NEWS RELEASE



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DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT TO 16 YEARS IMPRISONMENT

Lake Charles, Louisiana fighting the drug war

Lake Charles, Louisiana . . . BRYAN KEITH EDWARDS a.k.a. "PELICAN", age 27, from Lake Charles, Louisiana was sentenced yesterday in federal court by United States District Judge Patricia Minaldi to 192 months (16 years) federal imprisonment to be followed by 5 years supervised release for conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, announced United States Attorney Donald W. Washington. EDWARDS pleaded guilty to the charge in August 2005.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. United States Sentencing Guidelines established by the United States Congress and the United States Sentencing Commission may only be used as guidelines by the judge. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

EDWARDS and nine others were indicted on 21 counts of conspiracy to possess with intent to

distribute cocaine base and substantive narcotics offenses in November 2004 following an investigation into a major drug distribution and trafficking conspiracy in and around the Goosport area of Lake Charles. The investigation, known as "Operation Broken Bridge", was initiated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Lake Charles Resident Agency, at the request of the Lake Charles Police Department. The four-year investigation is a result of the Lake Charles Police Department's concern over the growing narcotics activity in Lake Charles. The case was investigated by the Calcasieu Parish Gang Task Force which is comprised of agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office, and the Lake Charles Police Department.

EDWARDS has pleaded guilty to conspiring with others between January 1999 and November 2004 to distribute more than 150 grams of crack cocaine in Lake Charles, Louisiana and elsewhere.

Two other persons involved in this investigation identified as Donnie Jermaine Lewis and Quentrayeous Latroy Reynolds, previously pleaded guilty and were sentenced to 19 years and 7 months federal imprisonment and 20 years federal imprisonment, respectively. Two other members pleaded guilty earlier this year and will be sentenced in June 2006. Five of the remaining defendants are scheduled for trial on similar charges in June 2006. A list of the ten members of the alleged conspiracy and their current disposition is attached as Exhibit A.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Todd Clemons.

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EXHIBIT A

NAME	AGE AND HOMETOWN	CHARGE	STATUS
KEVIN DEWAYNE EDWARDS	Age 29 Lake Charles, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances; distribution of cocaine base (crack); possession with intent to distribute cocaine base (crack).	Scheduled for trial 6/5/06
ROY EDWARD COFIELD	Age 23 Lake Charles, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances; distribution of cocaine base (crack).	Scheduled for trial 6/5/06
MARK ANTHONY MALBREW	Age 31 Lake Charles, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances.	Scheduled for trial 6/5/06
DONNIE JERMAINE LEWIS	Age 28 Houston, Texas	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances.	Sentenced in February 2006 to 19 years and 7 months federal imprisonment
JAMAR LACHRIS VICTORIAN	Age 22 Lake Charles, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances; possession with intent to distribute cocaine base (crack).	Scheduled for trial 6/5/06
JEROMIE DION GUILLORY	Age 27 Lake Charles, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances.	Pleaded guilty in April 2006, scheduled for sentencing on July 13, 2006
QUENTRAYEOUS LATROY REYNOLDS	Age 24 Lake Charles, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances.	Sentenced in February 2006 to 20 years federal imprisonment.
MARCELLUS QUENCHEZ REYNOLDS	Age 26 Lake Charles, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances; distribution of cocaine base (crack).	Scheduled for trial 6/5/06
WESLEY ANTONIO BARFIELD	Age 25 Cheneyville, La	Conspiracy to distribute controlled substances.	Pleaded guilty in February 2006. Scheduled to be sentenced on June 29, 2006.
BRYAN KEITH EDWARDS a.k.a. "PELICAN"	Age 27, Lake Charles, La	conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine	Sentenced to 16 years federal imprisonment.

